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PROGRAM Jack Anderson Confidential STATION WJLA-TV
ABC Network

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SUBJECT Profile of Begin

JACK ANDERSON: The man in the world's spotlight this week is Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin. In 1978 he won the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in establishing peace with Egypt. Today he stands widely condemned as a warmonger for the invasion of Lebanon. Many of his own countrymen hold him responsible for the massacre of Palestinians under Israeli protection.

What manner of man is Begin? I went to Israel last month to seek the answer. I questioned some of his intimate associates. One was Schmuel Katz, a former comrade in arms who has turned against Begin.

SCHMUEL KATZ: I think that he has -- he has his phases. He has a good deal of warmth in him, and he can also be very cold.

ANDERSON: Perhaps the best assessment of Begin has been compiled by the Central Intelligence Agency. Here's a composite of this secret psychological profile. Let me read from it:

"Begin is an outspoken and somewhat crude or unrefined representative of the Holocaust philosophy. He represents the mentality of those Jews unable to update the Nazi treatment of their brethren."

Is it possible, some critics have charged, that Begin has adopted the methods of the Nazis he so bitterly hated? Here's what Katz has to say.

KATZ: He was particularly concerned about the possibility of loss of life, loss of life not only of Jews, but

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even of British soldiers.

ANDERSON: Finally, I asked the distinguished Dr. Michael Maccabee to have his team of psychiatrists and psychoanalysts analyze Begin. Here is Dr. Maccabee's report:

DR. MICHAEL MACCABEE: Menachem Begin can be understood as a man who has hardened his heart. He's motivated by hatred and a sense of self-righteousness. As a leader, Begin's a brilliant, charismatic speaker. He's brave, belligerent, and he's autocratic in running things.

The main psychological point about Begin is that a person who believes that he's sincerely protecting can end up actually isolating and increasing the threat to those he wants to defend.

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